

FORUM #6 – GROWING FOOD AND EATING SUSTAINABLY

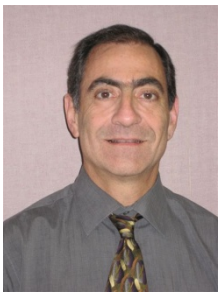
San Joaquin County Sustainability Forum Series

Friday, June 25, 2010

GUEST SPEAKERS



Ed Lewis has over 50 years of grocery experience, working in a variety of positions since his start as a bag boy in 1960. Having grown up in the Central Valley, and attended Franklin High and Delta College, Ed has seen first hand the significant changes that are a part of our everyday living. Since 1964 he has worked to bring quality produce from locally grown farms and from the quality farms that have expanded the scope of the produce market internationally. Ed started with Food4less as a Produce Manager in 1984 when the company first came to Stockton. In 1990 he became the Director of Produce where he oversaw the purchasing, retail and quality standards of the produce department. To date he has contributed 20 years to the Director position, and in 2008 Ed became the Senior Director of Produce, now working with a full produce team. During his post high school years he served in the Military for two years before attending Delta College where he received a certificate in Merchandising, Advertising and an AA degree. On his spare times he enjoys spending time with family and enjoying such hobbies as, golf, fishing, camping, and hunting.



William J. Mitchell has been the Director of San Joaquin County Public Health Services for the past 20 years. He had previously been with Ventura County Public Health for 12 years in several administrative positions after beginning his career as a Public Health Educator with Sacramento County Public Health in 1975. Bill received a Masters of Public Health degree from the University of Michigan in 1974 after receiving a Bachelor's degree in Health and Safety from California State University, Sacramento. Mr. Mitchell is married to Kathryn Siddle, a social worker with Lodi Memorial Hospital, and has three children, Amber, Zachary and Seth.



Julie Morris was born and raised in San Francisco. She graduated from Diego State University with a journalism degree and studied her Junior Year Abroad in Florence, Italy. Upon graduation, Julie moved to Washington, D.C. where she worked for a Canadian newspaper chain covering Capitol Hill. She moved back to California in 1991, when she married her husband, Joe Morris. They moved to his family ranch in San Juan Bautista and started Morris Grassfed Beef. Over the past 19 years, they have pioneered marketing grassfed beef direct to consumers throughout California. With customers from Sacramento to Los Angeles, they have grown from marketing to a handful of family and friends to more than 800 customers. As part of the growing local food movement, the Morrises practice Holistic Management, testing their decisions against their three-part goal of healthy land, people, and business.



Bob Whitaker founded three years ago Fresh Edibles Community Farm, a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). This is a new and resourceful concept connecting local farmers with local consumers. Supporters cover a farm's yearly operating budget by purchasing a share of the season's harvest. This relationship between local farmers, growers and community members helps create an economically stable farm operation in which members are assured the highest quality produce, often at below super market prices. "Farmer" Bob is a graduate of Cal Poly in Agriculture and a local farmer for over thirty years.