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MADDY DAILY EDITOR

Mike Lukens

REGIONAL ENTITIES

CA Center for Regional Leadership
 Central Valley Air Quality Coalition
 Central California EDC
 Great Valley Center
 Hospital Council of Northern/Central CA
 SJV Air District
 CA Partnership for SJ Valley
 San Joaquin Valley Blueprint
 SJV Clean Energy Organization

PUBLIC POLICY

Bedrosian Center on Governance and the Public Enterprise
 California Forward
 Center for Governmental Studies
 Center for Public Policy Studies (CSU Stanislaus)
 Civic Entrepreneur
 Latino Issues Forum
 Next 10

Public Policy Institute of California

PolicyArchive

Rose Institute of State and Local Government

UC Davis Center for Study of Regional Change

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Asm. Juan Arambula
 Asm. Tom Berryhill
 Asm. Bill Berryhill
 Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan
 Assemblywoman Connie Conway
 Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani
 Asm. Danny Gilmore
 Assemblywoman Alyson Huber
 Asm. Mike Villines
 Sen. Roy Ashburn
 Sen. Dave Cogdill
 Sen. Jeff Denham
 Sen. Dean Florez
 Sen. Lois Wolk
 Cong. Dennis Cardoza
 Cong. Jim Costa
 Cong. Kevin McCarthy
 Cong. Jerry McNerney
 Cong. George Radanovich
 U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer
 U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein

FRESNO COUNTY

Fresno County WIB
 Fresno County
 Council of Governments
 Fresno County EDC
 Fresno County Farm Bureau
 Elections Department
 Office of Education
KERN COUNTY
 Elections Division

August 15, 2009

In this issue

- [Maddy Events](#)
- [Political Briefs](#)
- [News Briefs](#)
- [Editorial Roundup](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

MADDY EVENTS

Maddy Report – The Maddy Report, a monthly 30-minute public affairs television program, will air "Health Care Reform: The Prescriptions from the Valley's Congressional Delegation." Guests Congressmen Jim Costa, D-Fresno; Dennis Cardoza, D-Merced; Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield; Devin Nunes, R-Visalia; and George Radanovich, R-Mariposa, will join host Mark Keppler, the Executive Director of the Maddy Institute, in a discussion of how the coverage, cost and quality of health care will be impacted by the proposed overhaul of our health care system. The program will air Saturday, Aug. 15 and Sunday, Aug. 16 at 5 p.m. on KSEE 24.

Maddy Forum – The Maddy Forum, a weekly 30-minute public affairs program focusing on issues of interest to the San Joaquin Valley, airs on 90.7 KFSR radio Saturday at 1 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. and also is available on the [KFSR Web site](#) and iTunes.

Maddy Political Insider – Former state Sen. Chuck Poochigian, a Maddy Institute board member, will be the next guest on The Maddy Political Insider, which can be heard on the Alan Autry Show on KYNO Radio 1300 Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

POLITICAL BRIEFS

Group airs proposals for California government overhaul – The bipartisan government reform group [California Forward](#) revealed details Friday about a package of proposals it plans to place on next year's ballot to overhaul state government and, the group hopes, break paralyzing legislative gridlock. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Cash-needy state meets needy cash – California Treasurer Bill Lockyer will have to borrow \$10.5 billion next month. That's no small chunk of change. But the way it looks now, many investors will be lining up to hand him their money. [LA Times article](#)

A look at the July budget package 'assumptions' – While not rivaling Clive Cussler, James Patterson or Ian Fleming for pacing or excitement, [the Legislative Analyst Office's appraisal of the budget package](#) signed July 28 is worth perusing – if only to note the number of times the word "assumes" appears. [California's Capitol blog](#)

Fresno Bee: Steinberg escalating confrontation – Just when you thought we were safely beyond the state budget debate, at least for the next few months, here comes Sen. Darrell Steinberg suing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to stop the governor from using his line-item veto pen to slice money from the Legislature's spending plan. What a disappointment. [Fresno Bee editorial](#)

Other states already trimming prison costs -- [California](#) isn't alone in feeling the fiscal pinch and it's also not alone in seeking to trim its prison and parole costs, a new nationwide survey finds. [Capitol Alert](#)

CD 10: Unions may play key role – Unions are the biggest entities — outside the official campaigns — actively promoting almost exclusively the two Democratic front-runners, state Sen. Mark DeSaulnier and Lt. Gov. John Garamendi. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

AD 29: Give back contribution, labor group tells Whelan – An influential local labor organization is calling on Clovis City Council Member Bob Whalen to return a \$2,900 donation from a development company seeking to build a Wal-Mart Supercenter in the city. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Health care opponents and proponents converge on Modesto – Modesto had its own town hall meeting over health care reform Friday — only it didn't include a town hall. Nearly 200 people gathered downtown during lunchtime to rally in support of or against changes to the U.S. health care system. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Nunes speaks out on health care – U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Visalia, said Friday that the administration's health-care plan would cost more than the country can afford. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Is Costa out of touch on health care? – Rightly or wrongly, there's a perception out there that Congressman Jim Costa isn't being as communicative with constituents on health care reform as other Congress members. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

BLOGS/SITES

Adam Ashton's After Deadline (ModBee)
 Aquaforia
 Bill McEwen blog
 blognetnews.com/California
 California Majority Report
 Capital Notes
 Capital Press
 Capitol Alert
 FlashReport
 Fox & Hounds
 Fresno Bee Opinion Talk
 Fresno Bee Political Notebook
 In the Public Eye
 LA Observed
 Michael Fitzgerald blog
 Mike Doyle's blog
 Modesto Bee Opinion Blog
 New West Notes
 PolitickerCA
 Politics, Anyone? (Bakersfield)
 Real Clear Politics blog
 SF Chronicle politics blog
 Smog Blog (Fresno Bee)
 Talk on Water (Modesto Bee)
 The Hotline's Blogometer
 The Roundup
 Valley Notebook
 Valley Notebook
CALIFORNIA STATE GOVERNMENT
 Air Resources Board
 Bill information
 CA High-Speed Rail Authority
 CA Secretary of State
 CA State Assembly
 CA State Senate
 CA Transportation Commission
 Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger
 Legislative Analyst's Office
 State of California
MEDIA
 Bakersfield Californian
 Capitol Weekly
 Fresno Bee
 KFIV Radio
 KFSN-TV
 KGPE-TV
 KJWL Radio
 KMJ Radio
 KMPH-TV
 KQED Radio
 KSEE-TV
 KVPR Valley Public Radio
 KVPR Valley Public Television
 LateUpdate
 Lodi News-Sentinel
 Los Angeles Times
 Merced Sun-Star
 Modesto Bee
 Rough & Tumble
 Sacramento Bee
 San Francisco Chronicle
 Stockton Record
 The Business Journal

Kern County
Kern County COG
Kern County EDC
Kern County Farm Bureau
Kern. Invo. Mono WIB
Office of Education
KINGS COUNTY
Elections
Kings County Farm Bureau
Kings County
Kings Co. Assn. of Governments
Kings County EDC
Kings County WIB
Office of Education
MADERA COUNTY
Elections Division
Madera County EDC
Madera County Farm Bureau
Madera County WIB
Madera County
Madera Co. Transpt. Comm.
Office of Education
MERCED COUNTY
Assn. of Governments
Elections
Merced County
Merced WIB
Merced County EDC
Merced County Farm Bureau
Office of Education
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
Elections
Office of Education
San Joaquin County WIB
San Joaquin County
San Joaquin County COG
San Joaquin County Farm Bureau
San Joaquin Partnership
STANISLAUS COUNTY
Elections
Office of Education
Stanislaus County
Stanislaus Alliance
Stanislaus County COG
Stanislaus County WIB
TULARE COUNTY
Elections
Office of Education
Tulare County
Tulare County Farm Bureau
Tulare County WIB
Tulare County COG
Tulare County EDC
EDUCATION
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California State University, Fresno
CSU Bakersfield
CSU Stanislaus
Fresno Pacific University
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University of the Pacific
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Sacramento Bee: Internet poker is a bad policy gamble – Given the state's dire fiscal circumstances, [California's](#) Legislature is ripe for a politically painless source of new revenues. On the surface, Internet poker appears to provide just that. But don't bet on it. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Kern GOP group warned about campaign-finance violation – A state commission has found that an aide to a Bakersfield congressman broke the law when he failed to disclose some details of payments to a local political consultant in his capacity as treasurer of the Kern County Young Republicans Voting Guide. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Jim Boren: Republicans who supported end-of-life counseling go silent as topic gets controversial -- It seems that end-of-life counseling was a nonpartisan issue until it became taboo recently for Republicans to support it. Now end-of-life counseling is another term for euthanasia. [Boren in Fresno Bee Opinion Talk](#)

Governor discusses spirit of service in radio address – Gov. Schwarzenegger calls on Californians to renew our commitment to service to honor Eunice Kennedy Shriver. [Governor's radio address.](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

Merced County to lay off up to 100 workers – Merced County employees were told on Friday that there could be as many as 100 layoffs when the county's final budget is presented to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Cities, Tulare County on the hook for millions in promised retirement funds – There's an intensifying controversy over how the state, its public schools and local governments can continue to pay for costly and some say overly generous ' pensions as they try to stay afloat financially. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

How public pensions beat private pensions -- The kinds of pension benefits that public employees enjoy are practically unheard-of in the private sector, pension experts say. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Some public agencies extend health benefits to retirees -- Some cities, school districts and public agencies make retirees eligible to continue their health insurance plans at least until they are eligible for Medicare at age 65, though how much they pay can vary from nothing to full cost. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Watchdog group seeks names of highly paid retirees -- The list of retired Tulare County employees collecting more than \$100,000 in annual pensions isn't big, just 13, but officials with the county's pension fund aren't giving up their names. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#); [Tulare County pension recipients speak out](#)

Boaters to rally against peripheral canal – You'd expect a few boats on a sunny Sunday in mid-August. But a flotilla? That's what some are hoping for this weekend as the Million Boat Float motors (or sails) up the Sacramento River in protest of a peripheral canal. [Stockton Record article](#)

Grassland fire near Tracy grows to 15,000 acres – A grassland fire that erupted in hilly terrain near the Altamont Pass grew to 15,000 acres and was moving south and east toward the juncture of Interstates 580 and 5. [Stockton Record article](#)

Students in limbo after transfer law expires – State lawmakers have failed to renew a law that allows students to easily change schools, possibly putting more than 370 Valley students in limbo just as classes start. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Budget cuts force cuts at Dinuba court – Services at the Dinuba division of the Tulare County Superior Court system will be scaled back dramatically in a bid to meet a mandated budget cut from the state, court officials announced Friday. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

CSU Fresno athletic budget focuses on cuts – Reduced revenues and a corresponding reduction in spending highlight the 2009-10 Fresno State athletics budget. More of both loom in September. [Fresno Bee article](#)

State parks brace for closures, fee hikes – California's state parks have wide disparities in the number of visitors they attract and the revenues they generate, two of the key factors officials are using to determine which parks they will close to make up for budget cuts. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Aid panel attacks proposal to have colleges dole out Cal Grants – Gov. Schwarzenegger wants to move most of the work away from the [California Student Aid Commission](#) and have colleges handle it instead. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Water battles take Kings farmers to Bay Area – California's increasingly heated water wars are taking Kings County farmers to some unlikely places. On Thursday, a few hundred of them joined hundreds more from Fresno County to form an estimated crowd of 1,100 protesters in front of Rep. George Miller's office in Concord. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

Wine grape harvest begins under economic cloud – The chilly economic climate is casting a shadow over this year's wine harvest, with some predicting expensive grapes will be a tough sell in a market that has developed a parsimonious palate. [AP article](#)

Modesto bus fleet gets \$5.6 million – The federal government Friday awarded Modesto a grant of \$5.6 million for maintenance and improvements at its downtown transit center. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Marine highway gets \$750,000 boost – Efforts to establish a new barge service between the ports of Stockton and Oakland got a boost when the Bay Area Air Quality Management District recently allocated \$750,000

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Univision 21
Visalia Times-Delta
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Clovis
Firebaugh
Fowler
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Reedley
San Joaquin
Sanger
Selma
KERN CO. CITIES
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Ripon
Stockton
Tracy
STANISLAUS CO. CITIES
Ceres
Hughson
Modesto
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Waterford
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Woodlake

to the project. [Stockton Record article](#)

Lawsuit may delay Bakersfield development approvals – A lawsuit challenging Bakersfield-area traffic impact fees could trigger a delay for city building projects Wednesday. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Inga Barks: Market should steer development – The Bakersfield Californian columnist asks, "Shouldn't the market dictate when a project is needed, where people want to live and how much they are willing to pay? What IS the role of government?" [Barks column in Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Lower home prices mean rising affordability – Declining [home prices](#) in [California](#) have a bright side - an increase in the state's traditionally low affordability. The [California](#) Association of Realtors says that 67 percent of [California](#) families could afford at least an entry-level home in the second quarter of 2009, up from 49 percent a year earlier. [Capitol Alert](#)

Promotion may avoid soldier's jail layoff in Fresno County – Fresno County officials said Friday that Paul Haros, an Army National Guardsman who is just back from Iraq, may not get laid off from his correctional officer job after all. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Visits resume at Tulare County jails – Visits are again allowed at all Tulare County jails, Sheriff Bill Wittman said today. A suspension on visits was ordered Aug. 7 as a precautionary measure when an inmate became ill with the H1N1 virus, more commonly known as swine flu. [Fresno Bee article](#); [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

West Nile virus hits Visalia mosquitoes hard – Escalating numbers of mosquitoes trapped in the Visalia area are testing positive for the West Nile virus, mosquito abatement officials reported Friday. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Cash for clunkers pays high price, prof says – The federal government's Cash for Clunkers program is paying far above the going price to reduce emissions of [carbon dioxide](#), according to a [University of California](#), Davis, economics professor. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Fresno Bee workers to take furloughs -- Workers at The Fresno Bee will take one-week furloughs in the fourth quarter after a union turned down an alternative plan that would have required employees to use some accrued vacation time before the end of the year. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Region to receive grant funds to ease water shortage -- The Valley's resource conservation agency announced Wednesday a grant to help Kings County growers conserve water supplies. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

Report: Toyota to pull out of NUMMI plant by March – Toyota Motors Corp. is pondering an end to production at the NUMMI automobile plant in Fremont by March 2010, according to a published report in a major Japan-based newspaper. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

Wal-Mart center process starts Wednesday in Merced – Wal-Mart's proposed distribution center will have its first round of public debate Wednesday. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

They tell us what they're doing in Fresno – It hasn't quite reached the point of daily updates on what the city of Fresno is having for lunch or what it's watching on television. But the well-oiled public relations machinery at City Hall is all over this Twitter thing. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Hanford planners OK surplus property sell off -- City planners have supported declaring a property at the southeast corner of Seventh Street and Campus Drive as surplus, paving the way for it to be sold. The half-acre property was bought by the city in 2001 as a possible location for the next city fire station to serve west Hanford. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

Foster Farms dips up smaller scoop – Humboldt Creamery is something of a throwback, a dairy processor supplied by fairly small herds of cows munching on pasture grass. Its prospective future owner, Foster Farms Dairy of Modesto, is a leader in large-scale milk production from cows that get a mix of rations. [Modesto Bee article](#); [Stockton Record article](#)

Merced to consider hiring former police chief to head public works on interim basis – The Merced City Council said it will hold a public hearing to discuss hiring former Police Chief Russ Thomas as interim public works director to oversee operations and review the department's organization and effectiveness. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Entrance fee waiver should boost Yosemite weekend attendance -- The National Park Service will lose up to \$6 million and gain modest benefits in return for offering free entrance to Yosemite and other parks this summer, officials now believe. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Fresno Bee – Just when you thought we were safely beyond the state budget debate, at least for the next few months, here comes Sen. Darrell Steinberg suing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to stop the governor from using his line-item veto pen to slice money from the Legislature's spending plan. What [a disappointment](#).

Merced Sun-Star – A [welcome pause](#) in gay marriage fight.

Modesto Bee – Plenty of [ripe, little rotten news](#) in Stanislaus.

Sacramento Bee – State budget is the law, but the [fight goes on](#); Given the state's dire fiscal circumstances, California's Legislature is ripe for a politically painless source of new revenues. On the surface, Internet poker appears to provide just that. But [don't bet on it](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Health and Human Services Work Group will meet at Lionakis Beaumont Design Group, 1207 I St., Suite 100, Modesto, on Aug. 20 from 2 to 4 p.m.

A California Solar Initiative workshop will be held on Sept. 1 at 1129 Enterprise St. in Stockton from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. September 1, 2009, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Information:
<http://www.pge.com/mybusiness/edusafety/training/stockton/contact/>

The Central Valley Venture Forum will be held on September 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Fresno. Registration will open in August. Contact: Nancy Kobata, nancyko@csufresno.edu.

The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute at California State University, Fresno was established to honor the legacy of one of California's most principled and effective legislative leaders of the last half of the 20th Century by engaging, preparing and inspiring a new generation of governmental leaders for the 21st Century. Its mission is to inspire citizen participation, elevate government performance, provide non-partisan analysis and assist in providing solutions for public policy issues important to the region, state and nation.

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