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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 23, 2009

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MADDY EVENTS

Maddy Forum – The Maddy Forum is a weekly 30-minute public affairs program focusing on issues of interest to the San Joaquin Valley. The show 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 – The Maddy Political Insider can be heard on the Alan Autry Show on KYNO Radio 1300 Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. (No Insider this week.)

POLITICAL BRIEFS

Jim Boren: Government reform would require changes -- The biggest problem with the efforts to reform California government is they aren't reforms at all. The proposals surely would improve the situation, but they hardly would fix a state government that's lost touch with California residents. [Boren column in Fresno Bee](#)

Thomas McKernan/Robert Hertzberg: California needs an overhaul, and he's a blueprint – The co-chairs of California Forward write that taken as a whole, our plan would go a long way toward restoring the checks and balances that are meant to be the key to our system – reinvigorating the natural tensions between the centers of power and producing better results for us all. [McKernan/Hertzberg op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

Decisive action on prison cuts is hard to come by -- California lawmakers signed off last month on deep cuts to education, healthcare and welfare that many said they could scarcely have imagined in years past. But when it came time last week to address the state's overcrowded prison system -- an area where the Democrats who control the Legislature have long pushed for change -- they froze. [LA Times article](#)

Tough votes on prison package – Eleven Democrats in the Assembly are considering campaigns for higher office this year or next. For them, a vote to reduce the state prison population is particularly difficult because of the likelihood they will be tagged as soft on crime at election time. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Details of the prison package – The prison package the Senate approved Thursday, along with use of the governor's executive power, is designed to help reduce the number of inmates by 27,300 and save the state \$1.2 billion over the next 10 months. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Speedup for paying state income taxes lies ahead – In a little-noticed piece of the budget plan signed last month, the amount of [state income taxes](#) withheld from paychecks will increase 10 percent starting with wages paid after Oct. 31. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

More public workers retiring early – Civil service retirements in [California](#) are running 16 percent ahead of last year, suggesting that pay reductions, furloughs, diminishing resources and heavier workloads are pushing many employees to the exits, according to data from the state's largest government retirement provider. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Dan Walters: Freeway gap symbolizes California's political inertia – One wonders which will come first – closing the I-710 gap, digging the peripheral canal or building a 500-mile-long bullet train. No one now breathing may be alive to learn the answer. [Walters column in Sacramento Bee](#)

Bakersfield Californian: Reform legislation misses the mark -- Congressman Jim Costa is right about health care reform: An incremental approach is probably best for the country. Americans don't deal with wholesale change especially well. [Bakersfield Californian editorial](#)

Whitman's refusal to debate raises questions -- Meg Whitman's refusal to debate in the early months of her campaign for governor is beginning to raise questions about whether it's part of a long-term strategy to limit her exposure and carefully control the image she wants to project. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

Calls to tax junk food gain ground -- With increasing vigor, public health experts and think tanks are calling for extra taxes on foods and drinks that are heavy in calories and light on nutrition. [LA Times 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
 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. Inyo. 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
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CSU Stanislaus
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The Conversation: Saving the Delta -- Here is a quick look at five major issues at the center of the debate. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Sen. Dave Cogdill: California has plenty of water; we just don't capture and manage this blessing well -- We in this state are blessed, and historically have been blessed, with the amount of precipitation that falls naturally on this state on a average annual basis. But we don't manage it properly. [Cogdill op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

Burt Wilson: A peripheral canal won't make any more water; it will just send more of it from north to south -- Despite all the "[Delta in crisis](#)" talk, the issue today is actually the same as it was back in 1982. It's a water grab, pure and simple. The only thing that's changed is that Big Ag in the [Central Valley](#) opposed the peripheral canal in 1982, fearing it would not get enough water, and today it is supporting it for the very same reasons. Go figure! [Wilson op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

Sacramento Bee: Consensus is possible on saving Delta -- People of good faith ought to be able to find a middle ground that will allow the state to achieve the twin goals of a reliable [water supply](#) and a restored and protected Delta environment. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

Fresno County budget cuts to end mental-health program for kids -- Fresno County will end a mental-health program for children and delay plans for a psychiatric unit for adults as part of an expected series of cuts in response to the state budget, officials say. [Fresno Bee article](#)

State budget has Modesto kids center in cash crisis -- The sounds of children laughing, playing, crying and eating fill Cricket's House most days. The Modesto house, run by the Children's Crisis Center, provides care for children, mostly under age 5, who have been abused or neglected. But the house was closed for 12 days in July because more than \$200,000 in reimbursements from the state owed to the center had been held up during the budget impasse. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Lois Henry: Air board forced to face facts in deciding against new rule -- Thanks to Skip Slayton, you can still afford a burger or slab of steak grilled to perfection at the mom and pop restaurant down the street. For now, at least. [Henry column in Bakersfield Californian](#)

Bill McEwen: Can salmon undo Yosemite dam? -- The facts haven't prevailed in the Hetch Hetchy debate. Not with San Franciscans fiercely protective of their federally created water source. Now, there's a new player in the picture. It's the salmon, fewer in numbers, but mightier than ever in the courts. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Trucks can make a deadly harvest -- Every summer, thousands of 40-ton trucks hauling tomatoes and other crops swarm the Central Valley in a mad dash to bring home the harvest. They keep the region's agricultural economy humming -- but also pose a deadly threat. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Health of San Joaquin Valley banks gauged -- More than 80 of America's banks have failed this year, including one in the Northern San Joaquin Valley, as the recession takes it toll on financial institutions. Are more locally owned banks in trouble? Perhaps. But others are healthy. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Bank growth follows the money -- Banks expanded at a breathtaking pace over the past five years, adding more than 10,000 full-service branches, but barely 1 in 10 were in inner-city, minority neighborhoods, another sign the financial spending spree skipped over substantial parts of the country. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Ticket taking was widespread in Stockton -- Stockton employees since 2006 have taken thousands of free tickets to sports games and concerts at publicly owned facilities, some receiving the equivalent of multigame ticket packages to baseball and hockey games at Stockton Ballpark and Stockton Arena. [Stockton Record article](#); [Michael Fitzgerald column in Stockton Record](#)

Hired gun takes aim at downtown Fresno -- John Dugan is the first outsider to be hired for Fresno's planning and development director since at least the mid-1970s. And he pledges to bring a clear eye to the city's downtown ambitions, and what is needed to achieve them. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Downtown Hanford study panel named -- Nearly a month after Hanford city leaders committed themselves to creating a workable vision for downtown east, they have created an 18-member steering committee to drive the process for the next three months. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

Lines of jobless growing longer -- The four-block line told the whole story of the Great Recession. More than 1,200 people - in their finest job-interview outfits, clutching resumes and staring ahead stoically - waited for hours to get into a job fair in San Francisco. The number of jobs available? 100. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Modesto Bee: Test scores rising, but many students still doing badly -- As report cards go, the one the state sent out this past week was cause for both celebration and concern among local school districts. [Modesto Bee editorial](#)

Modesto Bee: Here are 10 ways you can help your children succeed in school -- It's not all up to the schools to teach children. In fact, the role parents play is just as great, if not more so. And when the two work together, good things can happen. [Modesto Bee editorial](#)

Motivated to MOVE: Pacific students taking time to improve the world around them -- Friday's activities at the Calaveras were part of Pacific's Mountains Ocean Valley Experience (MOVE) program, which over the weekend has involved newcomers in a series of community service projects and experiences in vital areas of Stockton, the San Joaquin Valley and Northern California. [Stockton Record article](#)

Medical absence issue awaits Modesto trustees -- A fiery controversy has simmered at Modesto City Schools over students' ability to leave campus for confidential medical services, and trustees hope to put out those

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Woodlake

flames at their board meeting Monday night. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Sacramento Bee: An agenda for schools – The initial reaction of the [California Teachers Association](#) has been that lawmakers "should not rush to change laws that are working in California just to appease Secretary Duncan, who does not understand how our policies work." The real issue is that Duncan understands very well how these policies work. They hurt kids – and should be removed. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

Stockton Record: Students finally move into Delta campus in Mountain House – San Joaquin Delta College's satellite campus in Mountain House is a reality. Depending on your point of view, that's reason to celebrate, exhale a sigh of relief or express bitterness over having to settle for portable classrooms and unpaved parking lots after a dozen years of uncertainty. [Stockton Record editorial](#)

Stockton mother fights Kaiser on plan for cuts – A longtime, dedicated Kaiser Permanente member from Stockton is starting a petition drive to urge the health care giant to maintain around-the-clock after-hours care as it's now being offered. [Stockton Record article](#)

Family law cases spilling over into Stanislaus County Superior Courts – Officials say anger over the economic meltdown and its impact on families is spilling through the doors of the Stanislaus County Courthouse in downtown Modesto. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Rural fire stations can go weeks without a call -- In Kern County the difference in the number of calls received at city and rural stations is staggering. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Cleaning up at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach -- Now the friendly rivals are leading the way into unexpected waters: attracting, testing and funding cutting-edge technology to reduce emissions and fuel consumption at the ports. [LA Times article](#)

California nurses campaign for better H1N1 protection -- In the race to check the pandemic, some nurses also are odds with their hospitals. They complain that rules on the use of one simple, yet important weapon – respirators – may not protect them from on-the-job exposure to the virus. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Bakersfield Californian – Congressman Jim Costa is right about health care reform: An [incremental approach](#) is probably best for the country. Americans don't deal with wholesale change especially well.

Fresno Bee – Many reasons exist to [reform U.S. health care](#).

Modesto Bee – As report cards go, the one the state sent out this past week was cause for both [celebration and concern](#) among local school districts; State must poise itself to compete for [billions in education grants](#); It's not all up to the schools to teach children. In fact, the role parents play is just as great, if not more so. And when the two work together, [good things can happen](#).

Sacramento Bee – People of good faith ought to be able to find a middle ground that will allow the state to achieve the [twin goals](#) of a reliable water supply and a restored and protected Delta environment; The Obama administration has pioneered [a unique approach](#) to education reform.

Stockton Record – Stockton's Jose Hernandez is [lucky – and much more](#); [Students finally move](#) into Delta College campus at Mountain House.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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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