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Mike Lukens

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 Central Valley Air Quality Coalition  
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 Hospital Council of Northern/Central CA  
 SJV Air District  
 CA Partnership for S.J. Valley  
 San Joaquin Valley Blueprint  
 SJV Clean Energy Organization

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 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

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Assem. Juan Arambula  
 Assem. Tom Berryhill  
 Assem. Bill Berryhill  
 Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan  
 Assemblywoman Connie Conway  
 Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani  
 Assem. Danny Gilmore  
 Assemblywoman Alyson Huber  
 Assem. 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

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 Fresno County  
 Council of Governments  
 Fresno County EDC  
 Fresno County Farm Bureau  
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**KERN COUNTY**

Elections Division

August 29, 2009

**In this issue**

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

**MADDY EVENTS**

Maddy Forum - *Preventive Health Care: Is an Ounce of Prevention Worth a Pound of Cure?* John Capitan, the Executive Director of the Central Valley Health Policy Institute and Consultant to the Health and Human Services Work Group of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, and Glen Beatrez, Supervisor of the Clovis Area Recreation Center, will discuss preventive health in the national health care policy debate and what local communities can do to promote healthy activities. 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.

Maddy Legislative Intern Scholarship Program – The Maddy Institute is currently accepting applications for the fall 2009 semester for its Legislative Intern Scholarship Program. Students must be at least junior standing (grad students are welcome) and have an overall 3.0 GPA. Students must commit to a 150-hour internship. They will work in legislative offices within Fresno and tentatively set to start on Monday, Sept. 21. Deadline to apply is Friday, Sept. 4. Applications and details are available on the Maddy Institute's Web site at [www.maddyinstitute.org](http://www.maddyinstitute.org).

**POLITICAL BRIEFS**

Dugard case casts thunderclouds over prisons debate – The [ghost of Willie Horton has haunted](#) the debate over the plan to cut prison costs by reducing the inmate population and relying more heavily on parole. Now, the case of [Jaycee Lee Dugard](#), who was [rescued this week](#) after being kept in captivity by a convicted rapist for 18 years, is expected to spark a fresh round of attacks from critics of the plan. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

AD 31: Small fish for a big ... appetite – [Brandon Shoemaker](#), a Republican running for the 31st Assembly District seat in 2010, is offering a [Delta](#) delicacy of sorts for supporters at an upcoming fundraiser. An [invite for the Oct. 3 event](#) promises that Delta smelt appetizers will be served (Yes, we're serious!), alongside a robust meal of BBQ beef, rice pilaf, green beans and rolls. [Capitol Alert](#); [Fresno Bee political notebook](#)

Challenger puts Cardoza's GOP friends in a bind – Mike Berryhill's fellow San Joaquin Valley Republicans confront a delicate choice with his decision to challenge Rep. Dennis Cardoza, D-Merced. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Poochigian, never a judge, could be appellate justice – If Fresno's Chuck Poochigian is confirmed to a seat on the state's second highest court, he will join a select group. Only seven of the 101 sitting appellate court justices did not previously serve on a superior court. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Gary Condit no longer very appealing – The recent death of author Dominick Dunne is a reminder, for certain political junkies, of the rise and fall of former San Joaquin Valley congressman Gary Condit. [Fresno Bee political notebook](#) – scroll to item

State's workers pay for furloughs – With furloughs ordered through next June, many state workers now find themselves falling short on mortgages, relying on handouts for food and staring into the abyss of bankruptcy. [LA Times article](#)

Great California Garage Sale opening thousands to Sacramento – The first day of the sale attracted at least 5,000 bargain shoppers, said State and Consumer Services Agency spokeswoman [Erin Shaw](#). [Sacramento Bee article](#); [LA Times article](#); [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Stat's eBay sales strategy poor, auction expert says – Schwarzenegger administration officials have described their auction of old stuff on EBay over the last two weeks as an innovative way to make money for the state's depleted coffers. But the president of a Los Angeles auction business specializing in EBay sales says the foray into online auctions has been like many of the state's traditional programs: lackluster. [LA Times article](#)

Lawmakers scrutinize food safety regulations – Food safety proposals that would give the U.S. Food and Drug Administration far broader authority to regulate how food is grown and processed have divided farmers. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Fresno Bee: Political civility hits a new low – A lack of civility in politics may be nothing new, but we can't help hoping that our public discourse will one day reflect the genius that is this nation. If last week was any

**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  
 KSEF-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

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[Elections](#)  
[Kings County Farm Bureau](#)  
[Kings County](#)  
[Kings Co. Assn. of Governments](#)  
[Kings County EDC](#)  
[Kings County WIB](#)  
[Office of Education](#)  
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[Madera County EDC](#)  
[Madera County Farm Bureau](#)  
[Madera County WIB](#)  
[Madera County](#)  
[Madera Co. Transpt. Comm.](#)  
[Office of Education](#)  
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[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](#)  
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**STANISLAUS COUNTY**  
[Elections](#)  
[Office of Education](#)  
[Stanislaus County](#)  
[Stanislaus Alliance](#)  
[Stanislaus County COG](#)  
[Stanislaus County WIB](#)  
**TULARE COUNTY**  
[Elections](#)  
[Office of Education](#)  
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[Tulare County Farm Bureau](#)  
[Tulare County WIB](#)  
[Tulare County COG](#)  
[Tulare County EDC](#)  
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indication, that day is still a long way off. [Fresno Bee editorial](#)

Sacramento Bee: This is the time for real prison reform – As the state [Assembly](#) nears what should be a historic vote on prison reform, it appears that raw political ambition is getting in the way of good policy. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

Modesto native Veneman still a power player -- Although she no longer occupies a seat in the halls of power in the nation's capital, Modesto native Ann Veneman is a force on the world stage as the leader of UNICEF. [Modesto Bee article](#)

'Tea Party Patriots' stage rally – There was no doubting who the enemy was at Friday's "Tea Party Patriots" rally at the Capitol. "Government is the problem!" the crowd chanted. "No more government!" [Fresno Bee article](#); [LA Times article](#); [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Whitman, Campbell oppose effort to bar indy voters from GOP primary – Two of the three major California GOP gubernatorial candidates -- Tom Campbell and Meg Whitman -- oppose the proposal by leaders of the state Republican Party [to bar independent voters](#) from casting a ballot in the 2010 GOP primary, their campaigns have told the Chronicle . [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Gay marriage could still be on ballot in 2010 -- You've heard that Equality California and [other same-sex](#) marriage groups suggest [waiting until 2012](#) to ask California voters to approve same sex marriage. But don't sleep on seeing a ballot measure in 2010 just yet. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Susan Belinda Christian/Charles Sheehan: Anti-Prop 8 activists need cohesive plan – The chairs of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club write that after months of paralysis, the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community has been unable to reconcile the different strategic perspectives for repealing [Proposition 8](#). [Christian/Sheehan op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

## NEWS BRIEFS

Wildfires pose threat to Valley air, health – The Valley's improved air quality this summer could soon turn ugly with soot from wildfires and ozone, air officials say. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Governor issues statement on federal board's assistance to Fresno drought victims – Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger Friday issued the following statement after the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program allocated approximately \$600,000 to supplement and expand ongoing efforts to provide shelter, food and supportive services for victims of the drought in Fresno County. [Governor's Office news release](#)

Low prices, depressed demand driving some local dairies out of business – Dairy farmers here and across the country are scrambling to survive in a market where it costs more to produce their milk than the price for which they sell it. Tulare County produces more milk than any other county in the nation. Milk is the county's largest agricultural commodity, generating more than \$1.7 billion in sales last year. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Dairy farmers: Eat pizza – Tulare County dairy operators struggling to stay afloat might well have a simple prayer: Eat pizza. That's because 43 percent of the milk produced by California dairies goes to make cheese, and 25 percent of the cheese produced in the United States winds up on pizzas. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Delta salmon focus of lawsuit -- The Kern County Water Agency joined with the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta to file a lawsuit against the federal government over a new management plan for threatened salmon species that migrate through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Latest citrus threat found in FedEx package in Sacramento – The California Department of Food and Agriculture said a detection dog working with inspectors on Wednesday found a package at a FedEx depot in Sacramento that contained at least 100 live Asian citrus psyllids, including juveniles and adults. [LA Times article](#); [Fresno Bee article](#)

Merced agriculture crime fighters close few cases – The Agricultural Sheriff's Tactical and Reconnaissance Team, or Ag STAR, began its work in March. Six months later, its effectiveness remains somewhat debatable. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Wild pigs creeping closer to Merced farms, destroying property – Wild pigs are more than just prey for hunters to try to outwit. The intelligent animals are also a scourge to agriculture and to people who happen to live near them. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Boot camp kicks off San Joaquin County job-training program – The so-called mental-toughness camp was held as the kickoff to this year's San Joaquin YouthBuild, a job-training program in the construction trades operated by the county Office of Education to serve at-risk young people who are seeking their high school diplomas or equivalent certificates. [Stockton Record article](#)

State schools superintendent urges parental involvement in Bakersfield visit – Since California schools are operating with \$18 billion less than anticipated this year, parents, now more than ever need to be involved in the education of their children. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Only 1 swine flu cases reported in Tulare schools so far – One swine flu case has been reported in Tulare schools since the beginning of the school year, despite a rush of other cases at Tulare County campuses over the past few weeks. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

[Tracy Press](#)  
[Univision 21](#)  
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[Fresno](#)  
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[Mendota](#)  
[Orange Cove](#)  
[Parlier](#)  
[Reedley](#)  
[San Joaquin](#)  
[Sanger](#)  
[Selma](#)  
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[Livingston](#)  
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[Merced](#)  
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[Ripon](#)  
[Stockton](#)  
[Tracy](#)  
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[Modesto](#)  
[Newman](#)  
[Oakdale](#)  
[Patterson](#)  
[Riverbank](#)  
[Turlock](#)  
[Waterford](#)  
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Woodlake

Unidentified viral infection killed Modesto child care worker, 19, in just days – Officials suspect she could be another victim of the H1N1 flu pandemic. The Stanislaus County coroner is expected to determine the cause of death by Monday or Tuesday. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Governor discusses state's preparedness for H1N1 in radio address – The Governor says California has been preparing for a flu crisis for a very long time, and we had all the essential building blocks in place to protect the public. [Governor's radio address](#)

More than 4,000 students on waiting list at Delta College – Despite starting the fall semester almost two weeks ago, applications continue to flood into San Joaquin Delta College. The problem is that nearly a third of the classes at Delta are full and have waiting lists. [Lodi News-Sentinel article](#)

Cal State Fullerton to close for 4 days to save money -- Cal State Fullerton [says on its website](#) that the university will be closed Nov. 23-25 as part of its plan to periodically furlough workers, saving money that will help the state balance its budget. [Orange County Register article](#)

San Francisco City College plan to sell classes OK'd – It's official: City College of San Francisco's on-again, off-again plan to revive some of its 800 canceled classes by soliciting donations of \$6,000 per class is on again - mostly. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Gift of UC Merced's class of 2009 comes to life – Construction on Little Lake Amphitheater -- the class of 2009's gift to the UC Merced campus community -- began this week and is expected to be complete as early as October. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

All clear given for \$91 million for North Valley project – Legislation expected to trigger the transfer of \$91 million in state money to the future North County Corridor received no opposition from state lawmakers and is headed to Gov. Schwarzenegger. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Merced Sun-Star: Wal-Mart distribution center lifts our horizons – A distribution center -- even one that promises to provide some 900 jobs -- isn't the answer to all our economic problems. But it is a solid step in the right direction. One we hope projects an image of Merced County as a place that wants to cut the red tape when it serves no public purpose. [Merced Sun-Star editorial](#)

Brakes put on midday ACE run in north Valley – Three years after rail officials added a fourth ACE train between Stockton and the Silicon Valley, low ridership and economic concerns have the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission preparing to suspend that midday run. [Stockton Record article](#)

Fresno's disbanded drug unit to return changed – The Fresno Police Department's major narcotics unit -- disbanded in February after three of its officers were suspected of stealing a drug suspect's van -- will be resurrected with an altered mission, Chief Jerry Dyer said Friday. [Fresno Bee article](#)

J.R. Lewis: Motivated homebuyers find competition heating up – As anyone who pays any attention to real estate can tell you, it is a great time to buy a house. [Lewis column in Bakersfield Californian](#)

80 percent of Stockton-area families can afford to buy a home – Eight out of every 10 families in Stockton could afford to buy a home in the second quarter of this year, recent reports on housing affordability show. [Stockton Record article](#)

Lodi teams with organization to provide jobs for people with disabilities – The city has contracted with United Cerebral Palsy of San Joaquin, Amador and Calaveras Counties to ensure Downtown gets cleaned daily from 6 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday. The city hired the organization in November for \$46,872 a year. [Lodi News-Sentinel article](#)

Bakersfield project delayed after heated debate – The hotly-debated Frazier Park Estates project will be delayed more than three months by a split vote of the Kern County Planning Commission Thursday night. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Report offers glimpse into tragic Kern CPS case – Gina Serna's family was referred to Kern County Child Protective Services at least three times on charges of neglect before her son Guillermo Alvarez died in June, his body battered and his spleen ruptured by physical abuse. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Modesto Bee sues for Stanislaus retirement data – The Modesto Bee is seeking a court order to compel the Stanislaus County Employees' Retirement Association to disclose records on the most lucrative pensions of public service retirees. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Recycling yards wait to see impact of sales incentive – Like other aspects of the sales incentive, the recycling end of Cash for Clunkers has caused considerable uncertainty. A rule change over the past month encouraged dealers to hold on to trade-ins longer than had been allowed initially. So revenue estimates are iffy at best. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

National survey shows poor California road conditions -- If you sense that [California's](#) highways and streets are in worse repair and more congested than those of other states, you're probably correct, a new nationwide compilation of transportation data indicates. [Capitol Alert](#)

Larry A. Smith: All hat and no cattle? No way – The former Fresno teacher writes that the next time one of the big hat guys rides into town, the City Council should check to see if he has enough cattle. If there is no concrete proof, then he should be invited to ride out on the horse he came in on, if he has one. [Smith op-ed in Fresno Bee](#)

Stockton's son rises -- After 40 years of dreaming about space and five tense days of waiting, Jose Hernandez was finally sent 220 miles into the sky Friday night aboard a blazing space shuttle Discovery.

[Stockton Record article](#); [Lodi News-Sentinel article](#)

## EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

.Fresno Bee –Political civility hits [a new low](#).

Merced Sun-Star – We hope the Wal-Mart distribution center projects an image of Merced County as a place that wants to [cut the red tape](#) when it serves no public purpose.

Sacramento Bee – As the state Assembly nears what should be a historic vote on prison reform, it appears that [raw political ambition](#) is getting in the way of good policy.

Visalia Times-Delta -- Census 2010, the decennial head count in the United States, is [important enough](#) that thousands of people have been working on it for months already.

### 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/>

Over 100 Volunteers Needed for Emergency Food Distribution - Drought Disaster Response in Central California: September 11 from 8-1pm or 1pm-6pm in Firebaugh City Park [1599 Q St, Firebaugh, CA 93622]. Contact HandsOn Central CA to volunteer at (559) 237-3101 or sign up via [www.handsoncentralcal.org/FoodBank.html](http://www.handsoncentralcal.org/FoodBank.html).

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](mailto: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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