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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

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

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 5, 2009

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MADDY EVENTS

Maddy Forum – The Maddy Daily, a half-hour public affairs show dedicated to 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 – The Maddy Political Insider can be heard on the Alan Autry Show on KYNO Radio 1300 Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

POLITICAL BRIEFS

State ordered to shrink prison population by 44,000 – In a historic move, a panel of three federal judges today ordered the state of [California](#) to reduce its [prison population](#) by more than 40,000 inmates in the next two years. [Sacramento Bee article](#); [Dan Walters column](#); [LA Times article](#); [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

State keeps hiring despite recession – California's state government has managed to add thousands of jobs during the past year, defying a mammoth budget deficit and a brutal recession. [San Jose Mercury News article](#)

Whither the Williamson Act? – One of the odder victims of the budget signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is the Williamson Act which helps keeps farm and ranch lands from being sold and, potentially, developed. [California's Capitol blog](#)

Field Poll: California GOP hasn't kept pace with changing demographics -- The California Republican Party has failed to keep pace with the state's evolving demographics over the past 30 years, signaling further trouble for a party that has been slipping in popularity, according to a poll released Tuesday. [AP article](#); [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Older, whiter and settled down – This morning brings the latest in a series of studies that shows how different the people who actually vote in California are from the state's population as a whole. It also shows how different those voters are than the ones who cast ballots 30 years ago. [Capital Notes blog](#)

Jim Boren: Should we legalize pot to balance the state budget? – Get ready for the California marijuana wars coming to a ballot box near you. Supporters of a movement to legalize pot in California have filed a ballot measure with the state attorney general's office that would allow adults 21 and over to possess up to an ounce of marijuana. [Boren in Fresno Bee Opinion Talk](#)

State senators to consider changing law on student scores, teacher evaluations -- In an effort to qualify for federal 'Race to the Top' funds, the Senate's education committee plans to look at a 2006 law that bars use of test scores to evaluate teacher performance. [LA Times article](#)

New GI bill changed for California – California veterans who attend private college or graduate school will receive tuition support from the Post 9/11 GI Bill, thanks to an agreement between the state and the Department of Veterans Affairs. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Kern trustee sued over Prop 8 sign scuffle – Rob Badewitz filed a civil lawsuit against Kern High School District Trustee and local "Yes on 8" Chairman Ken Mettler July 10 over their infamous sign scuffle last year. A preliminary hearing is set for next month. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

DUIs cloud Sal Quintero's political future -- Former Fresno City Council Member Sal Quintero recently pleaded guilty to his second drunken-driving charge in as many years, clouding his political future. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Vote on California marine preserves roiled by board shake-up -- An unexpected layer of political drama has been added to the controversy over 30 proposed ocean preserves off the [California coast](#); Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Tuesday added a voting member to the commission that will decide the fate of the preserves. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

NEWS BRIEFS**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

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State Dems unveil water bills – With the clock running out on the legislative year, Democrats on Tuesday made the opening move in the latest round of state water negotiations -- unveiling five bills they said would "restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and create a more reliable water supply for California." [Fresno Bee article](#); [San Diego Union-Tribune article](#)

Delta group details irk community – Four of the seven members of a proposed Delta Stewardship Council would be appointed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger under legislation unveiled Tuesday, advancing fears that such a council, if formed, would endorse a peripheral canal by the end of next year. [Stockton Record article](#)

San Joaquin air officials ask public to police itself – "We have a great number of rules, but we are getting near the point where people really need to step up and do things voluntarily," San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District spokesman Anthony Presto said. [Stockton Record article](#)

10 more Atwater teachers lose jobs with new school year just around the corner – Ten teachers in the Atwater Elementary School District were laid off Tuesday night, bringing the total number of laid-off educators in the district to 30, Assistant Superintendent David Diaz Duran said. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Builders sue Bakersfield; Thomas money at core -- A lawsuit against a recent increase in traffic impact fees spells out what's lurking at the core of the dispute: the city's need for local matching funds for \$630 million of federal transportation money Bakersfield's retired congressman secured before leaving office. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Merced starts program to help first-time homebuyers – In the coming months, the Merced city government will spend close to \$1.5 million to help about 50 residents buy their first home. The money comes from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

State prepares for climate change – The first statewide plan in the country calls for adaptation and education. Public comment is sought. [LA Times article](#)

Modesto garbage fees could change – The City Council votes tonight on whether to reset garbage collection fees. If approved, the maximum residential bill would drop from \$23.27 to \$22.37 monthly. Commercial rates would go up, with maximum bills increasing to \$41.29 from \$39.34. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Valley shoppers buck U.S. trend toward shopping -- Nationwide, shoppers opened their wallets wider in May and in June, increasing their spending for two straight months -- but the uptick doesn't appear to be happening in the Valley. [Fresno Bee article](#)

SBA-backed startups failing in north Valley – At least 95 businesses defaulted on more than \$5.2 million in SBA- guaranteed loans in Stanislaus, San Joaquin and Merced counties from January 2007 to May 2009. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Kohl's to hire 120 for new store in Merced -- Kohl's is seeking 120 workers for a new store scheduled to open in Merced in September. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Stockton Record: A blow to downtown Stockton – The failure of the Lexington is a hard knock to downtown. But the economy won't be in a slump forever, and the investments in the city's core will pay dividends - eventually. Unfortunately, no one can be certain when. [Stockton Record editorial](#)

Stockton council to consider investigation of firing of deputy city manager – Mayor Ann Johnston said Tuesday that the City Council next week will consider ordering an independent investigation into the firing of Deputy City Manager Johnny Ford. [Stockton Record article](#)

Lodi Unified extends chief's contract – Lodi Unified Superintendent Cathy Nichols-Washer was awarded a one-year contract extension, the Board of Trustees announced Tuesday night in a swell of support for the district's leader. [Stockton Record article](#)

Modesto superintendent's contract, enrollment tackled – Modesto City Schools trustees spent most of Monday night's meeting hearing from staff and the public about a proposal that allows students ages 12 to 18 to leave school for confidential medical services without parental consent. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Lodi Unified approves cell phone towers for campuses – Despite one school board member's concerns regarding student health and a passionate plea to delay voting on the issue until the public could be informed, the Lodi Unified School District has approved allowing unidentified companies to erect cell phone towers on two local campuses. [Lodi News-Sentinel article](#)

Tulare supervisors consider adding restrictions, fees to 'fringe' vendors -- Mobile-food vendors, junk peddlers, fortune tellers and the operators of strip clubs and festivals could soon have another layer of regulations to deal with. The Tulare County Board of Supervisors is considering a package of ordinances aimed at "fringe" businesses. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Dairies to get more for milk – Tulare County dairy producers should see an increase in milk profits starting next month. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Visalia Times-Delta: Rail line is an uncertain buy – Postponing its decision on whether to endorse the recovery of an abandoned rail line in southern Tulare County was probably the only sensible course available to the Visalia City Council this week. [Visalia Times-Delta editorial](#)

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[Visalia Times-Delta](#)
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124 applications for Fresno police auditor whittled down to 4 -- Four candidates are finalists to be Fresno's first independent police auditor, Mayor Ashley Swearegin said Tuesday. City officials hope to make the hire in time for the new auditor to start work Oct. 1, the mayor said. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Roeding family objects to Fresno zoo expansion plan -- Descendants of the family that donated the land for Roeding Park are once again challenging plans to expand the Fresno Chaffee Zoo at the park. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Five new fire engines will be put to work in Merced County -- Five brand-new state-of-the-art fire engines will begin serving Merced County in the coming weeks. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Henry R. Perea: Justice for sale in Fresno County? -- The Fresno County supervisor writes that for the sake of justice, the very cornerstone of American law, it is imperative the 21 positions slated for deletion in the Fresno County public defenders office are restored. [Perea op-ed in Fresno Bee](#)

Lois Henry: Giving to panhandlers isn't helping -- The thing is, foreclosed families are a very real and frightening phenomenon whose numbers are increasing at crisis rates. Though most aren't begging for change on the side of the road, they are in dire need. [Henry column in Bakersfield Californian](#)

Vartanian accused of stealing \$500,000 -- The businessman who promised to breathe new life into Fresno's troubled Granite Park development was charged Tuesday with stealing more than half a million dollars from customers of his luxury-car dealership. [Fresno Bee article](#)

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Fresno Bee -- State regulators should [put an end](#) to luxury trips.

Merced Sun-Star -- Payday lenders [prey on the poorest](#).

Sacramento Bee -- Ideally, we'd like to see state government re-engineered to [minimize the damage to workers](#) and the services they provide.

Stockton Record -- The failure of the Lexington is a hard knock to downtown. But the economy won't be in a slump forever, and the [investments in the city's core](#) will pay dividends - eventually. Unfortunately, no one can be certain when.

Visalia Times-Delta -- Postponing its decision on whether to endorse the recovery of an abandoned rail line in southern Tulare County was probably [the only sensible course](#) available to the Visalia City Council this week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will host a Healthy Air Living Air Quality Chat at Westside Union Elementary School in Los Banos on Aug. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m.

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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