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Mike Lukens

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 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  
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 Cong. Dennis Cardoza  
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 Cong. Kevin McCarthy  
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 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 7, 2009

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**MADDY EVENTS**

Maddy Forum - *Quality of Life: Are Cultural Arts a Luxury or a Necessity?* – Cynthia Cooper, Executive Director of FCASH, and Travis Sheridan, Chairman of the Creative Fresno Board of Directors, discuss the importance of growing the cultural arts and creative industries in Fresno on this week's Maddy Forum. 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 – Maddy Institute board member Sal Russo is the guest on the next edition of The Maddy Political Insider, which can be heard on the Alan Autry Show on KYNO Radio 1300 Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

**POLITICAL BRIEFS**

Dan Walters: 2006 education bill bedevils Schwarzenegger – The devil, it's been said, is in the details and [Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) is bedeviled by one paragraph of a bill he signed three years ago to create a new system for collecting and storing information about the state's public school teachers. [Walters column in Sacramento Bee](#)

Is governor leading the way on staffing, furloughs? – Is Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger leading by example in cutting staff and implementing furloughs in his own office? [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Stockton Record: Community safety at stake in prison ruling – If this court order is carried out, in deciding who should be released, corrections officials must be ever mindful of the safety of our communities. [Stockton Record editorial](#)

Sacramento Bee: Prison reform is now unavoidable – The court has given the state two years to reduce its prison population. This is a golden opportunity to restructure our prison system in ways that save money and better protect the public. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

CD 10: Candidates maintain state campaign accounts – The three Democratic candidates in the 10th Congressional District race who also hold California public offices continued to raise and spend money from their state campaign accounts after they declared themselves federal candidates. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

Big donors sought for Schwarzenegger climate meeting – A top [California](#) Chamber of Commerce official is soliciting six-figure donations to help Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger host a climate change summit in [Los Angeles](#), offering contributors private access to the governor and "first-paragraph mention in official event press release," according to donor materials. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Governor signs 128 bills, vetoes 9 -- The vacationing governor flew back to [California](#) yesterday to consider a boatload of bills awaiting his OK. The end count: 128 pieces of legislation signed into law and nine vetoed. Soon after, he headed back out of the state to continue on with the break. [Capitol Alert](#)

Governor signs cemetery bill – Authored by Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani, D-Livingston, AB 124 will allow local governments to petition a court to appoint a temporary manager of a private cemetery, if that cemetery falls into a state of disrepair. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Conway gets stamp of approval from governor on three bills – Assemblywoman Connie Conway, R-Tulare, had three of her bills signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger on Thursday. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Governor signs bill reducing penalties for office betting pools -- Three years after Margaret Hamblin was busted for running a \$50 betting pool on football at the Elks Lodge, the 76-year-old grandmother believes she got some justice Thursday when Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a law reducing the penalty for participating in such office betting contests. [LA Times article](#)

State campaign watchdog gets an overhaul – A new majority on the state's campaign watchdog will be in place when Secretary of State Debra Bowen appoints a new member to the Fair Political Practices Commission sometime next week. [Capitol Weekly article](#)

Sacramento to vote on strong-mayor plan in 2010 – Mark your calendars, [Sacramento](#). Mayor [Kevin Johnson's](#) strong-mayor pitch is going on the June 8, 2010, ballot. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

**BLOGS/SITES**

Adam Ashton's After Deadline (ModBee)  
 Aquaformia  
 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**  
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 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

Fresno soldier's return marks end of frayed flag -- As his father and a crowd of 50 watched, Paul Haros and his fellow soldiers slowly lowered the faded and torn flag that has flown in front of his parents' east-central Fresno home for a year, and replaced it with a new flag. [Fresno Bee article](#)

**NEWS BRIEFS**

Water plan in print, draws immediate fire – The first outline of a plan to overhaul California's water system includes a dramatic boost in conservation, an expansion of water officials' authority, a fee-based financing scheme and the potential for major new water projects that include canals through or around the delta east of San Francisco. [Capitol Weekly article](#)

State Sen. Lois Wolk: Delta residents must have a say in Delta plan – In the scientific world, the Greek character for "Delta" means change. Today, the Delta is changing. All of California has a great deal at stake in shaping that change and planning for the Delta's future, but no one has more at stake than the Delta community itself. [Wolk op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

More Tulare layoffs possible – The Tulare County Board of Supervisors will decide whether to lay off four more employees next week. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Amid huge cuts, UC execs get raises – On the same July day that the UC Board of Regents cut \$813 million from UC budgets - setting in motion pay cuts, layoffs and campus cutbacks - the board quietly approved pay raises, stipends and other benefits for more than two dozen executives. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

College students will 'feel the crunch' – When California college students return to campus this fall, they'll find crowded classrooms, less access to faculty and counselors, fewer campus services and more difficulty getting classes they need to graduate — all while paying higher fees. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Unemployment rate dips – Employers throttled back on layoffs in July, cutting just 247,000 jobs, the fewest in a year, and the unemployment rate dipped to 9.4 percent. It was a better than expected showing that offered a strong signal that the recession is finally ending. [AP article](#)

Development freeze? Bakersfield fights back – Talk about a line in the sand. Want to build something in Bakersfield? Forget about it. Consider it the city's revenge for a lawsuit filed Tuesday by local homebuilders upset by a spike in traffic impact fees. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Tulare supervisors to deliberate Williamson Act – The Tulare County Board of Supervisors will decide its next step Tuesday as it begins to piece together a plan to deal with the Williamson Act. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Affordable housing in Valley gets boost – For the second time in a month, the federal government has used stimulus money to jump-start two affordable-housing developments in the central San Joaquin Valley. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Measure M already paying dividends in Merced – Measure M may have been passed just last November, but building projects funded by the property tax levy will already be enjoyed by students from Merced to Livingston on the first day of school next week. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Fresno Bee: Lowell efforts right approach – While the Fulton Mall is the symbolic center of downtown Fresno, the success of revitalizing the city's urban core will be judged in part by what happens in residential neighborhoods such as the Lowell district on downtown's northern edge. [Fresno Bee editorial](#)

Latchkey Program's end strands students, parents in Modesto – The termination of the Latchkey Program has left hundreds of families without free or low-priced child care before and after school and during holiday breaks. The program is for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Early College makes daunting debut in Stockton – If all goes as planned at the brand-new Stockton Early College Academy, they're going to have a remarkable first graduating class four years from now. [Stockton Record article](#)

United Way helping to close Merced health care gap – More than 35 percent of the people who seek health care at Golden Valley Health Care clinics in Merced County are uninsured. That means many prescription drugs are out of their financial reach. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Electricity gets a bit cheaper in Merced – Merced Irrigation District, known for selling water, has made it a little cheaper to buy another product -- electricity. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

A new way of looking at home prices – Although [California home prices](#) have dropped dramatically in the last couple of years as the state experienced a wave of foreclosures and distressed properties flooded the market, coastal regions of the state still have relatively high prices that will discourage renters from buying, a new national housing survey indicates. [Capitol Alert](#)

Modesto-area earnings still sinking in relation to rest of U.S. – Northern San Joaquin Valley incomes continue to fall behind the rest of the nation. Personal incomes averaged \$41,455 in metropolitan regions nationwide last year; Stanislaus County incomes averaged \$29,463. That's about 29 percent less. Residents earned even less in Merced County: \$25,221. In San Joaquin County, the amount was \$29,178. [Modesto Bee article](#)

[Tracy Press](#)  
[Univision 21](#)  
[Visalia Times-Delta](#)  
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[Clovis](#)  
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Woodlake

Personal income rises 2 percent in Kern – Per capita personal income for Kern County was \$27,713 in 2008, according to new figures out from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis on Thursday. That's about a 2 percent increase from 2007 and a 7 percent improvement over the county's per capita income in 2006.

[Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Beef from Fresno recalled – A Fresno meat plant is recalling more than 400 tons of ground beef shipped this summer because of an outbreak of a drug-resistant salmonella strain that may have made people sick, including two people in Tulare County. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Ag officials inspect Valley bug safeguards – A day after officials announced that an insect had tested positive for a disease that could devastate the Valley's citrus industry, they were investigating how it slipped past customs and got to Fresno in the first place. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Two flu bugs require two flu shots -- Brace yourself for flu season. State health officials say it's shaping up to be like no other: Two influenza strains -- swine flu and seasonal flu -- circulating in the air at the same time. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Kern confirmed H1N1 cases rise to 82 – There have now been 82 laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza, formerly known as swine flu, involving residents of Kern County, the county Public Health Department said Thursday. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Modesto Bee: Be careful stamping out post offices -- The prospect that it could close two or more of Modesto's four post offices is downright distressing. [Modesto Bee editorial](#)

Lodi opts for synthetic Grape Bowl field – Lodi will proceed with plans to install a synthetic turf football/soccer field at the Grape Bowl, a move that promises to increase the number of events held at the stadium but that also prompted two City Council members to question how safe the rubber material is for children. [Stockton Record article](#)

Fresno sued over towing fee -- A Fresno man who had his car towed after a traffic stop is suing the city and Police Chief Jerry Dyer, claiming a \$40 fee associated with getting the vehicle back from the towing company is illegal. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Funds sought to help Lanare fix town wells -- Lanare community leaders and a legal assistance group are asking the state and Fresno County to help repair a deteriorating water system before it fails. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Jim Boren: Tulare shuts down 8-year-olds lemonade stand -- In this tough economy, an 8-year-old girl better not try to sell lemonade on a Tulare street corner without getting a business license. [Boren in Fresno Bee Opinion Talk](#); [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

#### EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Fresno Bee – Efforts in Fresno's Lowell neighborhood are the [right approach](#); The release of journalists from Korea is [worth celebrating](#).

Merced Sun-Star – Federal courts have given California a chance to [fix its prison system](#) to save money and better protect public.

Modesto Bee – Stanislaus County spay-neuter clinic is [a necessity](#); The prospect that it could close two or more of Modesto's four post offices is [downright distressing](#).

Sacramento Bee – This is [a golden opportunity](#) to restructure our prison system in ways that save money and better protect the public; Sacramento County Sheriff McGuinness did [a tough job well](#).

Stockton Record – If this court order is carried out, in deciding who should be released, corrections officials must be ever mindful of [the safety of our communities](#).

Visalia Times-Delta – [Cheers](#) to Tulare County people and businesses.

#### 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](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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