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Mike Lukens

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 Central Valley Air Quality Coalition  
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 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

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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

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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  
 Elections Department  
 Office of Education  
**KERN COUNTY**  
 Elections Division

October 31, 2009

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**MADDY EVENTS**

Maddy Forum – The Maddy Forum, a weekly half-hour radio show 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. It also is available on the [KFSR Web site](#) and iTunes.

Maddy Political Insider – Don Jackson, Chairman of The Maddy Institute's board of directors, will be the guest on the next edition of The 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 Associate Luncheons – On **Nov. 12** the *Maddy Associate* luncheon will be a panel discussion on "Health Care Reform: What is the Prescription?" Speakers will be Dr. Mark Smith, President of the California Healthcare Foundation; Martin Gallegos, SVP/Chief Leg. Advocate for the California Hospital Association; Diana Dooley, CEO/President of the California Children's Hospital Association; Mr. Ken Jacobs Chair of the U.C. Berkeley Labor Center; Patrick Johnston, President/CEO of California Association of Health Plans and Dr. John Capitman, Executive Director of the Central Valley Health Policy Institute.

On **Dec. 18**, the *Maddy Associate* luncheon will be our "Annual Sacramento Update" with members of the Valley's State delegation. If you are not a *Maddy Associate* and are interested in attending these events and becoming a Maddy Associate, please contact the Maddy Institute at [mkeppler@csufresno.edu](mailto:mkeppler@csufresno.edu)

Maddy Institute on Twitter – To learn about Maddy Institute activities (e.g. *The Maddy Report* tv show, *The Maddy Forum* FM radio/podcast, *The Maddy Political Insider* AM radio show, *The Maddy Associates' Luncheons*, the *Maddy Legislative Intern Program*), log on to <http://twitter.com/MaddyInstitute>. And if you have a Twitter account, please add us and follow us!

**POLITICAL BRIEFS**

Steinberg defends proposed water legislation – Facing an array of criticism from Northern California interests about controversial water legislation, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg defended the measures Friday, saying they include plenty of protections – and money – for Sacramento and Delta interests. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

A water way? – Here is a look at the latest proposal and some of the issues that stand in the way of a long-sought deal. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

State politicians sidelining Delta legislators in repair plan – Legislative leaders pushing a \$9.4 billion overhaul of the ecologically fragile Delta are executing a political strategy designed to neutralize Contra Costa and the other Delta counties, say two of the region's state senators. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

Cardoza says he'll seek a new term as congressman – Rep. Dennis Cardoza said Friday he'll run for re-election for a fourth term representing the 18th congressional district. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Lobbyists' alleged threat on Nunes revealed -- A corporate lobbyist told Rep. Devin Nunes that a local company would move out of the congressman's district unless the Visalia Republican supported an earmarked funding request, Nunes said Friday. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Bay Area could lose congressional seat – Here's a post-Halloween fright for the Bay Area: A new analysis of population data shows the region could lose a congressional representative after the 2010 Census. [Contra Costa Times article](#)

Merced Sun-Star: Endorsements in local races – The Merced Sun-Star offers its endorsements for Merced mayor and city council. [Merced Sun-Star editorial](#)

Bellevue high school campus focus of Merced board race – Whether to build a new high school in North Merced -- a hot topic on Merced Union High School District school board agendas for months now -- has become a central issue among candidates vying for election. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Only 1 in 3 Atwater board seats is contested – Three slots -- but only one race for seats on the Atwater Elementary School District board. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

**BLOGS/SITES**

Adam Ashton's After Deadline (ModBee)  
 Aquaforma  
 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  
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 KGPE-TV  
 KJWL Radio  
 KMJ Radio  
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 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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Newsom drops out, shaking up California's gubernatorial race -- San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom shook up the California gubernatorial race Friday by dropping his struggling bid for governor, leaving Democrats with no declared candidate for the top statewide office. [Sacramento Bee article](#); [San Francisco Chronicle article](#); [LA Times article](#); [AP article](#)

AG spokesman on 'administrative leave' for secretly taping reporter phone conversations -- Scott Gerber -- the spokesman for Attorney General Jerry Brown who [admitted secretly taping a phone conversation](#) with Carla Marinucci and other reporters -- has been put on "administrative leave," AG press secretary Christine Gasparac just told us. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Sacramento Bee: State courts can't hide behind robes -- The Bureau of State Audits should be brought in to do a top-to-bottom review of the state court bureaucracy and a representative sample of county court systems as well. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

Governor: Profanity in veto was 'wild coincidence' -- It may be highly improbable mathematically, but Gov. [Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) said Friday that the encoded profanity contained in one of his veto messages was "a wild coincidence." [Sacramento Bee article](#)

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Top Stories**

California to withhold a bigger chunk of paychecks -- Starting Sunday, cash-strapped California will dig deeper into the pocketbooks of wage earners -- holding back 10% more than it already does in state income taxes just as the biggest shopping season of the year kicks in. [LA Times article](#)

Biden: Federal stimulus boosting California jobs 'as advertised' -- The \$787 billion stimulus bill approved by Congress earlier this year has saved or created more than 640,000 jobs, including more than 110,000 in California, the White House said Friday. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Media opinions vary widely on California's woes -- But while those on the right and left agree that California is a mess, albeit with sharply different takes on the source of its woes, Time magazine looks at the state and concludes in a cover story, "it's still a dream state." [Capitol Alert](#)

Prison shocker for San Joaquin -- State correctional officials desperate to fix California's overcrowded prisons - which offer inmates unconstitutionally low levels of health care - have turned to San Joaquin County for their solution. [Stockton Record article](#)

Modesto summit topic: Reintegrating inmates -- Leading civil rights organizations next week will bring prison experts and advocates to Modesto for a two-day summit on how to reintegrate the state's prison population. [Modesto Bee article](#)

**Agriculture/Water**

Clovis considers raising water rates -- Clovis could raise water rates by 20% beginning in January if the City Council approves a hike during a public hearing Monday. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Dairy industry 'shaken but not stirred' -- The dairy industry -- the backbone of Kings County's ag economy -- has been dealt setbacks, but is facing a fairly positive global outlook, ag lender Rabobank said Friday. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

Dairy farmers seek price help from state -- Western United Dairywomen and the Alliance of Western Milk Producers asked California Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura to raise the minimum price paid to dairywomen for the milk they produce. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Asian citrus psyllid nears California growing center -- A tiny insect that threatens California's \$1.6-billion citrus industry has been found near one of the state's commercial citrus growing regions. [LA Times article](#)

**Economy**

Local program turns stimulus funds into jobs -- The "Economic Stimulus 80/20 Program" covers 80% of each new employee's paycheck for a year. After that, employers would have to take over. About 200 people have found jobs since August, and program coordinators say they have the funds to expand that number to 5,000. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Ex-Stockton officials offer their own theory for Marina deficit hike -- Two former city officials said a substantial increase in the projected deficit at Stockton Marina was caused by project revisions proposed by Revitalization Director Dave Harzoff and endorsed by the City Council, not by a year-old cost analysis Mayor Ann Johnston called a "wild guess" and Harzoff said was flawed. [Stockton Record article](#)

Stockton officials arrive on a yacht for celebration of marina's grand opening -- City officials boarded a yacht at Delta Marine Sales & Service, on the Stockton Deep Water Channel, and cruised Friday afternoon to Stockton Marina, which opened that day and where about 150 people came to celebrate. [Stockton Record article](#)

Tulare council forgives \$31 million in loans to Tulare Redevelopment Agency -- The Tulare City Council recently forgave \$31 million in accrued interest on loans to the Tulare Redevelopment Agency, which now owes the city \$21.5 million. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

State targets out-of-state purchases for taxes -- As part of California's efforts to shore up its budget, roughly 184,000 business owners are getting letters from the state Board of Equalization, requiring them to register

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[Univision 21](#)  
[Visalia Times-Delta](#)  
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[www.maddyinstitute.org](http://www.maddyinstitute.org)

Woodlake

to pay a tax they might have overlooked. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

### **Education**

Sanger Unified principal wins national honor -- Wesley Sever, principal of John S. Wash Elementary School in Fresno, has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education to receive the 2009 Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Foundation in memory of immigrant raises funds to rebuild Lao school -- When Vanna Thiphanep came to the United States as a 15-year-old in 1979, he left behind his birthplace, Laos - a place he loved, but that offered little opportunity, especially after years of war. [Stockton Record article](#)

### **Environment/Energy**

Air district's seasonal wood-burning restrictions take effect Sunday -- The annual residential fireplace program designed to reduce harmful airborne particulates begins a new season Sunday. [Bakersfield Californian article](#); [Visalia Times-Delta article](#); [Stockton Record article](#)

State high court backs Atwater's wastewater treatment plant -- A legal challenge that could've stalled construction of Atwater's planned multimillion-dollar wastewater treatment plant was struck down by the California Supreme Court in mid-October, according to court filings. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Fresno County gas storage site approved -- An underground storage facility for natural gas in western Fresno County was approved for construction by the California Public Utilities Commission. [Fresno Bee article](#)

### **Health and Human Services**

Tulare County man dies from H1N1 virus -- A 24-year-old Tulare County man died Friday morning of complications from the H1N1 virus, a health official said. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Swine flu vaccine trickles into Stanislaus -- Some health care providers in Stanislaus County have received the injectable form of H1N1 flu vaccine, although medical groups said they received small amounts and a large group didn't get any. [Modesto Bee article](#)

### **Land Use/Housing**

More Visalia renters losing homes as landlords fall on hard times -- A month before the foreclosure sale of her rental home is complete, Jennifer Grant, a 34-year-old single mother, is looking high and low for public assistance that will get her and six relatives through a difficult time. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Merced council will once again tackle homeless issue -- After months of discussion, the Merced City Council may decide Monday what, if anything, it will do to help the area's homeless people. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

Young investors rehab Kern properties -- Cousins Keith Wasserman and Damian Langere aren't exactly real estate moguls, but although not yet 30, the pair has created a real estate investment company that is growing fast. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

### **Other Areas**

How do Fresno police shootings compare to other agencies -- Fresno police officers have fatally shot two people this week and six so far this year, a tally that puts the department ahead of similar-sized California agencies in 2009. But over the long term, state figures show, the Fresno department has killed suspects at a rate about average for comparable police agencies in the state. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Tulare County probation looks to future -- Tulare County Chief Probation Office Janet Honadle took some time out to share with Viewpoint an assessment of her department. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

Japanese sister city visits Fresno -- Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin on Friday welcomed a 27-member delegation from Kochi, Japan, as part of the Sister Cities program. [Fresno Bee article](#)

## **EDITORIAL ROUNDUP**

Merced Sun-Star -- The Merced Sun-Star [offers its endorsements](#) for Merced mayor and city council.

Modesto Bee -- [Tricks and treats](#) from the past week in Stanislaus.

Sacramento Bee -- The Bureau of State Audits should be brought in to do [a top-to-bottom review](#) of the state court bureaucracy and a representative sample of county court systems as well.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The California Department of Education will hold a stakeholder meeting on ARRA Race to the Top funds at the Fresno County Office of Education on Nov. 2 from 1-4 p.m. For specific information on how to participate, please visit California's Race to the Top Web site at <http://www.caracetothetop.org>.

The 10th annual Central Valley Ag Outlook, organized by the Risk Management Association, will be held Nov. 4 at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center, 2101 E. Earhart Ave. in Stockton. Information: Corinne Santos at (209) 929-1308 or Irene Kharufeh at (209) 929-1359.

Altamont Corridor Rail Project scoping meeting for preparation of EIR/EIS will be held at the San Joaquin COG offices in Stockton on Nov. 12 from 3-8 p.m. For more information, updates on community input opportunities or to join the mailing list, please visit [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov).

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization's Farming Clean Energy Conference will be held at AGTAC in Tulare on Dec. 1 from 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. For more information, visit [www.sjvcleanenergy.org/fcec09](http://www.sjvcleanenergy.org/fcec09).

The San Joaquin Valley Green Jobs Summit will be held at the Fresno Holiday Inn Downtown on Dec. 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Rey Leon, executive director, Valley LEAP and SJV Regional Green Jobs Coalition Chair, at (559) 269-9563 or [sjvleap@gmail.com](mailto:sjvleap@gmail.com).

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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